



BIGGLESWADE URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1961.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SANITARY INSPECTOR

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Dr. H.S. Bury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

T. Wilson, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.,  
Public Health Inspector & Surveyor..



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1961

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
BIGGLESWADE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report upon the health and sanitary circumstances for the Urban District of Biggleswade for 1961.

Mr. A. Lee, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.A., joined the staff as Public Health Inspector on the 23rd October, 1961 and it is hoped that his appointment will enable the work of the Health Department, which had fallen badly into arrears, to be brought up-to-date.

The vital statistics this year show an increase in the death rate to above the national average; a birth rate very much lower; an infant mortality rate on the high side and a very high stillbirth rate. On the face of it these figures are not reassuring, but when one taken into account the composition of the local population with an average age considerably above the national average and applies the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General, one finds that in fact the average death rate over the last 10 years when adjusted, is 8.6 which is considerably lower than the national average. The birth rate average over the last 10 years when adjusted is 12.7 and the infant mortality average over the last 10 years is 19.0. These are perfectly satisfactory figures, although it must be admitted that in healthy surroundings such as those in Biggleswade one would have expected an infant mortality rate rather lower than this.

Of the 19 males and 6 females who died under the age of 65, the commonest causes of death in this younger age group was Stroke, Heart disease and Bronchitis. The reasons for these are not apparent.

The district was remarkably free from infectious disease during the year.

Good progress was made with housing during the year both by the Council and by private enterprise. We are now having to care for an ever-increasing number of very old people in the community and it is desirable from every point of view that these people should be able to maintain an independent existence rather than having to enter an institution. Their special needs have been the subject of a great deal of study in recent years and the time has come to consider the provision of specially constructed labour saving dwellings in addition to the bungalows already built for old persons in this town.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Council and the staff for their co-operation during the year and especially Mr. T. Wilson who was responsible for most of the work contained in this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

H. S. BURY

Medical Officer of Health.



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BIGGLESWADE URBAN DISTRICT  
C O U N C I L  
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A N N U A L     R E P O R T  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for 1961.  
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1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	4,647
Registrar General's estimate of home population mid-year 1961.	...	...	...	8,230
Number of inhabited houses.	...	...	...	2,620
Rateable value	...	...	...	£104,359
Sum represented by a Penny Rate..	...	...	...	£413 : 17s : 3d.

2. SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Biggleswade is primarily a market town and is the centre of a rich agricultural and horticultural area. Today however, the town also has an increasing amount of light engineering and other industry. There is therefore, plenty of employment for all types of labour.

The only social problem is the housing shortage.

### 3. VITAL STATISTICS

#### LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	42	64	106
Illegitimate	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
Total	<u>46</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>112</u>
Crude birth rate per 1,000 Home population .....			13.6
Adjusted birth rate per 1000 home population .....			13.1
Birth rate for England and Wales .....			17.4

#### STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	-	3	3
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Births .....			26.1
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales .....			18.7

#### DEATHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths in the district	59	57	116
Crude death rate per 1,000 Home population .....			14.1
Area Comparability Factor .....			0.74
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 Home population .....			10.4
Death rate for England and Wales			12.0
Deaths from disease and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth .....			1



DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births .....			17.2
Rate for England and Wales .....			21.4
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births .....			9.0
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births) .....			9.0
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths).....			35.0

STATISTICAL TABLE 1952 - 1961.

Year	DEATH RATE		BIRTH RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE	
	Biggleswade Urban	England & Wales	Biggleswade Urban	England & Wales	Biggleswade Urban	England & Wales
1951	11.4	12.5	16.4	15.5	16.8	29.6
1952	11.9	11.3	15.4	15.3	35.1	27.6
1953	13.7	11.4	11.7	15.5	11.5	26.8
1954	12.6	11.3	14.6	15.2	17.7	25.5
1955	15.0	11.7	14.8	15.0	0.0	24.9
1956	10.4	11.7	16.4	15.7	15.6	23.8
1957	9.1	11.5	14.2	16.1	18.0	23.0
1958	8.4	11.7	13.8	16.9	34.2	22.5
1959	11.3	11.6	14.2	16.5	16.8	22.0
1960	12.5	11.5	14.8	17.1	23.8	21.7
1961	10.4	12.0	13.1	17.4	17.2	21.4

CAUSES OF DEATH 1961

CAUSES	Under 16 years		16 - 65		Over 65		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute, Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
11. Malignant neoplasm lungs Bronchus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm.	-	-	-	1	4	7	4	8
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	-	-	4	-	12	11	16	11
18. Coronary disease, angina	-	-	5	-	8	5	13	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	1	-	-	5	1	5
20. Other heart disease	-	-	-	-	6	11	6	11
21. Other circulatory disease	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
22. Influenza	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
23. Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	2
24. Bronchitis	1	-	3	-	3	-	7	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	-	1	-	-	4	2	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	2	2	-	-	2	2
34. All other accidents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35. Suicide	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.....	2	-	17	6	40	51	59	57

Causes of deaths in infancy

Prematurity ..... 1  
 Bronchitis ..... 1



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PROVIDED BY THE NORTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

GENERAL HOSPITALS

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford.  
Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.  
North Herts & South Beds Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.  
Lister Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.

GERIATRIC HOSPITALS.

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.  
Clapham Hospital, Near Bedford.  
Biggleswade Hospital, Potton Road, Biggleswade.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.  
Lister Hospital, Hitchin, Herts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Spittlesea Isolation Hospital, Luton.

PSYCHIATRIC

Three Counties Hospital, Arlesey.

MENTALLY SUB-NORMAL

Bromham Hospital, Near Bedford.

CHEST CLINIC (For Pulmonary Tuberculosis)

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

VENERAL DISEASE CLINIC

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford.

MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

Biggleswade (The Lawns) Tuesdays 11.15 a.m. to 11.45 a.m.

PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

Biggleswade (The Lawns) Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons)

BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

PROVIDED BY THE BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Service provided by the Bedfordshire County Council has satisfactorily met the needs of the area. It covers the full twenty-four hours and is free of charge.

In addition to moving emergency cases, ambulance or sitting case car transport is available for carrying patients unable to travel by other means to and from Hospitals and Clinics, when attendance is necessary for the purpose of receiving medical treatment.

Except in the case of an emergency, the request for an ambulance must be made by a Medical Practitioner or other authorised person. This should be to the nearest depot.

The service now also covers the removal to isolation hospitals of patients suffering from infectious disease.

The following depots are situated in the eastern and northern districts of the County:-

Biggleswade ... Chestnut Avenue..... Tel: Biggleswade 2295  
Bedford .....Bedford Road, Kempston Tel: 5335 and 5336

DOMICILIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

This Service is administered by the North Eastern Divisional Health Committee. The Nurses employed are ...

Midwifery only

Nurse M.P. Stafford, 38 Mead End, Biggleswade  
Tel: Biggleswade 3266

General Nursing only

Nurse E. Dillistone, 127 Mead End, Biggleswade  
Tel: Biggleswade 3177

Health Visiting Service

Miss D.A. Hipkiss, Cottage Road, Sandy.. Tel: Sandy 146

Home Help Service

Organiser : Mrs V. Van Berckaler, 3 St.Peters St., Bedford  
Tel: Bedford 2207

Infant Welfare Centre

The Lawns, Health Centre, The Baulk, Biggleswade .. every Tuesday  
afternoon 2 - 4 p.m.

Dental Clinic for mothers and young children

The Lawns Health Centre, The Baulk, Biggleswade - Four mornings a week

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply:

Water is supplied to the area by the Biggleswade Water Board and has proved very satisfactory in quality and quantity. Samples have been taken periodically during the year and the results have shown that the supply is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

The following report by the Counties Public Health Laboratories of a sample sent for examination is typical :

### Chemical Examination in parts per Million

Appearance - Very faint opalescence with very few particles		
Colour	...	Nil
Odour	...	Nil
Turbidity	...	Less than 3
Reaction pH.	...	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	25
Electric Conductivity	...	520
Dissolved Solids dried at 180 deg.C.	...	360
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	18
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	...	240
Hardness : Total		295
Carbonate		240
Non-Carbonate		55
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	0.8
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	ABSENT
Ammoniacal Nitrogen %	...	0.000
Albuminoid Nitrogen %	...	0.000
Metals - Iron	...	ABSENT
" - Zinc, Copper, Lead and Manganese	...	ABSENT
Oxygen absorbed	...	0.05
Residual Chlorine	...	ABSENT

% To convert to Ammonia multiply by 1.21

### Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar -

1 day at 37 degs. C	...	0 per ml.
2 days at 37 degs.C	...	0 per ml.
3 days at 20 degs.C	...	0 per ml.

	Present in	Absent from	Probable Number
Presumptive Coliform reaction	-ml	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact.coli (Type 1)	-ml	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl.welchii reaction	-ml	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality.

These results indicate a water which, from the aspect of the chemical analysis, is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes. The water is not plumbo-solvent.



### Drainage and Sewage:

With the exception of a few cottages on the Langford Road and some outlying cottages, the whole of the area has a water carriage system. The sewage disposal plant has been working to capacity. The length of new sewers laid during the year is given in the Sanitary Inspector's report. The cesspools of the outlying un-sewered properties are emptied by arrangement.

### EFFLUENT

The effluent from the sewage works which runs into the River Ivel has proved unsatisfactory. At a local enquiry held on the 1st March, 1961, representation was made by the Gt.Ouse River Board on the pollution of the river now occurring as a result of the operation of the storm water overflows in dry weather. The two most recent samples of final effluent taken from the river however, were reported upon as follows .....

1. 8. 61 This sample shows a high degree of nitrification, and has a moderate content of suspended solids and organic matter. The effluent is therefore, of a good standard in this respect. The amount of suspended solids exceeds however, the usual limits of 30 parts per million and the sample therefore, falls short of a high standard in this respect.
4. 8. 61 This sample shows a high degree of nitrification and has a moderate content of suspended solids and organic matter. The effluent is therefore, of a good standard of quality.

The present works were built in 1910, and with the continuing expansion of the town and the addition of industrial effluent such as that coming from the Brewery, the Council's Consulting Engineers have recommended the construction of a new sewage disposal works on a new site.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

#### Notification by age groups.

	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-15	Over 15	Total
Dysentery	-	1	-	-	1	2
Measles	-	2	5	5	2	14
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	-	-	-	-	1	1

No case was admitted to Isolation Hospital

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the number of cases notified during the past 15 years and the number of deaths over that period.

	<u>New Cases</u>					<u>Deaths</u>				
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	
1947	1	3	-	-	4	1	-	-	1	2
1948	2	5	1	2	10	-	-	-	-	-
1949	4	1	1	-	6	2	-	1	-	3
1950	5	5	1	2	13	1	-	-	-	1
1951	3	2	-	-	5	2	-	1	-	3
1952	3	-	-	-	3	1	2	-	-	3
1953	6	4	-	-	10	1	-	-	-	1
1954	2	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	2
1955	2	3	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-
1956	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1957	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	-	1
1958	1	4	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1959	3	3	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	1
1960	9	2	-	-	11	1	-	-	-	1
1961	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Biggleswade during the year and a total of 2,819 persons were examined. One new case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis resident in the Urban District of Biggleswade was discovered.

The Mobile Chest X-Ray Unit now visits Biggleswade regularly to provide a service for local medical practitioners. It is stationed at "The Lawns" every Tuesday morning, between 11.15 a.m. and 11.45 a.m.

### IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

It is now possible to protect persons against an increasing number of infections by the use of vaccines and toxoids. The Bedfordshire County Council is responsible for the provision of this service which is given direct at clinics or through the General Medical Practitioners. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis are the diseases dealt with.

The tables presented below are supplied by the Divisional Medical Officer and indicate the work carried out in the district during the year.

#### DIPHTHERIA ONLY

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Under</u> <u>1</u>	<u>1-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-15</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Primary injections	-	2	25	2	29
Booster injections	-	-	50	65	115

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH COMBINED.

Age Groups	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-15	Totals
Primary injections	60	20	2	-	82
Booster injections	-	-	2	-	2

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

Age Groups	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-15	Totals
Primary Injections	13	2	-	-	15

SMALLPOX VACCINATION CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Age Groups	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	Totals
Primary vaccinations	18	6	6	4	6	40
Re-vaccinations	-	-	-	2	3	5

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

During the year the following injections against Poliomyelitis were carried out in the North Eastern Division ....

No. who had the first two injections ....	4,775
No. who had the third injection .....	6,068
No. of children in the age group 5-11 years who had a fourth injection....	5,634

B.C.G. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis is now available to senior schoolchildren and students and the following table shows the work carried out in the North Eastern Division during the year ...

No. skin tested ,.....	826
No. found positive .....	89
No. found negative and vaccinated .....	710
No. of absentees carried forward to following year ...	27



REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1961.

Building Plans :

The following building plans were approved by the Council and work inspected and drains tested during course of construction:-

Overhead Cables	1
Dwellings	8
Alterations, additions, conversions	19
Garages	9
Caravans	3
Change of use	6
Advertisement Signs	1
Electricity Sub Stations	2
Access of Boundary walls	3
Offices	1
Workshop	1
Loading Bay	<u>1</u>
	<u>55</u>

TABLE 1.                      GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The following inspections were made and nuisances abated or defects remedied by informal action.

Housing Defects (Council Houses)	3,530
Unfit houses	63
Drainage	134
Water Wastage	459
Caravans	18
Enterovirus Survey	30
Factories	11
Farms	31
Food Premises	51
General nuisances and visits	27
Petroleum Act	40

Forty-two inspections were made in connection with Rodent Control and treatment undertaken as required, and one test bating of sewers was carried out.

TABLE 2.                      FOOD PREMISES

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Visits</u>
1. SHOPS.		
a) Bakehouses	4	4
b) Confectioners	10	3
c) Butchers	7	5
d) Grocers	18	17
e) Green-grocers	6	3
f) Retail Milk Premises	-	-
g) General Store	6	8
h) Fish Shops	7	-
2. MARKET STALLS      (Food)	6	11

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Visits</u>
3. Catering Establishments,		
a) Cafes and Restaurants	6	1
b) Canteens (Industrial)	4	-
c) " (School)	4	-
d) Hotels	2	-
e) Club Premises	3	-
4. Licensed Premises	20	-

The total number of food premises etc in the area is 103.

TABLE 3.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND CONDEMNED.

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered voluntarily:-

<u>Food</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Condition</u>
	lbs.	ozs.	
Corned Beef	6	0	Putrefaction.
Ham	13	0	Blown and damaged can.
Luncheon Meat	8	0	ditto
Jellied Veal	6	0	ditto
Fish (Scraps)	224	0	Staleness and putrefaction

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

In accordance with the Slaughterhouses Act 1958 and regulations made thereunder, the appointed day for the Construction Regulations to apply to all slaughterhouses in this district was 29th September 1961. As a result the licences for the three slaughterhouses in this district lapsed and slaughtering was discontinued.

Regular meat inspection duties were carried out until that date and the following animals were slaughtered and inspected:-

Cattle	...	...	165
Pigs	...	...	317
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	278

The following meat was rejected as unfit for human consumption:-

Parts rejected :-

Carcass meat	...	82 lbs
Offal	...	164½ lbs

TABLE 4.

REPAIRS, IMPROVEMENTS ETC to FOOD PREMISES.

Redecoration carried out	2
Washhand basins installed	1

TABLE 5

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1)(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health and Housing Acts)	11
(b) Number of inspections made	66
(2)(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	9
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-para 2(a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	2

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices. -

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers. -

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 16 or 42 Housing Act 1957

- (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. -
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.
- (a) By Owners. -
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. -
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By Owners. -
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

C. Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957

- (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 6
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 4

D. Proceedings under Section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957

- (1) Number of separate houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made. 2
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit. -

Factories and Workshops :

The following factories and workshops are registered:-

Brewers	...	...	1
Millers	...	...	3
Motor & Cycle Eng	...	...	14
General Engineers	...	...	8
Joiners	...	...	2
Plumbers	...	...	5
Printers	...	...	2
Tailors	...	...	1
Boot Repairers	...	...	2
Laundry	...	...	1
Lingerie Manufacturers	...	...	1
Bookbinding	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	14

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## PART I

### 1. Inspections :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	47	11	-	-
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)				
Total	55	11	-	-

### 2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conv.					
a. Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
c. Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl. offences relating to Outwork.)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-



PART VIII  
Outwork

Nature of Work.	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No of instances of work in un-wholesome premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing apparel (making).	3	-	-	-	-	-

### House Scavenging:

In view of the continued increase in the quantity of refuse resulting from additional development in the district, further consideration was given during the year to the possibility of changing the system of collection to cope with these conditions. Several methods were investigated and it was decided to let to Contract the collection from one section of the district, comprising approximately one third of the total number of premises. This was put into operation in June 1961 and is operating satisfactorily.

Collections of house and trade refuse in the remainder of the district is carried out by direct labour. An 18 cubic yard Dennis 'Paxit' refuse collection which is used for this purpose, supplemented as may be required from time to time by a 10 cubic yard Karrier Vehicle. A regular weekly collection is maintained. Refuse disposal is effected by means of controlled tipping.

Waste paper is not collected, but the salvage of scrap metal and rags etc. has been continued and is undertaken during the course of normal refuse collection. A bonus scheme is in operation for this work. The collections during the year were as follows:-

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
Scrap Iron.	1	1	-	-
Mixed Aluminium	-	2	-	13
Brass, copper and lead	-	-	3	12
Rags and wool	-	13	2	24
Dagging	-	-	-	7

### Sewerage:

100 lin.yds of 15", 180 lin.yds of 12" and 144 lin.yds of 9" surface water sewers, and 628 lin.yds of 9", and 151 lin.yds of 6" and 4" foul sewers were laid to serve the Councils housing estate at Mead End and Dells Lane; and 368 lin.yds of 12" and 9" surface water and 1158 lin.yds of 9" and 6" foul sewers for other housing development.

### Water Supply:

Lengths of 456 lin.yds of 4" and 207 lin.yds of 3" C.I. watermain were laid in Mead End to serve the Councils housing estate. Further lengths of 267 lin.yds of 4" and 426 lin.yds of 3" watermain were also laid for private housing estates at Holme Court, Spring Close and St.Andrews Close.

Seventy-seven new connections were made to the Council's mains.

The total consumption of water for the year, inclusive of trade supplies, was 142,223,000 gallons. This shows a decrease of approximately 2,500,000 gallons on the figures for the previous year. The overall daily average consumption of water was approximately 47 gallons per head of population, the average domestic consumption being 34<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> gallons per head.

459 inspections for water wastages were made, and 410 taps were rewashered free of charge.

### Housing:

A contract for the erection of 48 houses and bungalows has been largely completed during the year.

The construction of further schemes for 49 houses and bungalows at Mead End, and 3 bungalows at Hitchhead Road were also commenced. 33 houses and bungalows have been completed and occupied during the year.



The erection of a further block of five garages on an existing housing estate at Stratton Way was also commenced.

60 private houses were erected in the district during 1961.

T. WILSON M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.

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Stratton House,  
The Baulk,  
Biggleswade.

